In the Beginning...Jesus

Lesson 28
A Man of Sorrows

Themes:

- God had promised His people a new kind of King and a new kind of covenant.
- Isaiah foretold of a Man who would bear the sins of God's people, take upon Himself their punishment, and heal them.
- God promised His people a new kind of heart.

Scripture:

Isaiah 1:4a; Jeremiah 17:9; Isaiah 53:3-5

Memory Verse:

John 1:10 (and review verses 1-9)

Today's Clues:

SIN BEARER, HEALER

Home and Heart:

Read Isaiah 7:14; 9:6; and 53:3. In these passages, God gave His prophets a glimpse of something He was planning to do for His people in the future. These descriptions were written about 700 years before Jesus was born. Does it appear as if these verses all describe the same man? Why not? Tell your child to think of these descriptions as individual pieces of a puzzle. If you pick up one or two pieces, is it sometimes hard to understand how and where these pieces fit into the finished puzzle? How can this help us understand the descriptions of God's future promises that He gave to the people of the Old Testament? Have you seen these passages fulfilled in the New Testament? How?

Read Jeremiah 17:9 and Isaiah 1:4a. Do these verses *only* describe God's people of the Old Testament? Are there other verses that show that these verses also describe you? (See Romans 3:10-12, 23.) Do you need what God promised in Isaiah 53? Who is this Man? When you see God's special promises fulfilled, how should you respond? Do you believe Jesus has carried your sin and been punished for you? Do you trust Him as your perfect Sin Bearer?

Read Ezekiel 36:26-27. Ezekiel was God's prophet, too. God gave him messages of warning, repentance, and hope. What type of message was verses 26-27? What is a heart of stone? What are stones like? How did the people of Israel demonstrate having a "hard heart" toward God? What is a heart of flesh? What is flesh like? What will God cause this new heart to do? Can people change their own hearts? Why is this impossible? Can a stone make itself soft and moldable? When it comes to God, is your heart more like stone or flesh? How would a heart of flesh show itself in its thoughts, words, desires, and actions? Read and discuss 2 Corinthians 5:17.

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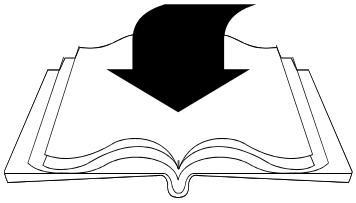

ISAIAH

Isaiah 53 gives us an amazing picture of Jesus—700 years before He was born in Bethlehem! How was Isaiah able describe what Jesus did on the cross before it happened? Isaiah was God's prophet—His special messenger—and God gave Isaiah just the right words to write down. God had already planned exactly what He was going to do for His sinful people. Through His prophets, God gave His people clues about their coming Deliverer. This week, read Isaiah 53:4-9. Then read Matthew 26:47-27. On the lines below, write what you find in Matthew showing Jesus is the Man described in Isaiah 53. One is done for you:

Jesus was rejected by His own people (Matthew 27:22).

